

Better Protection

1st Cav. Div. Gets Up-Armored

By Spc. Andy Miller
122nd MPAD

The first of a series of shipments of brand new and refurbished M1114 High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (Humvee) arrived in Baghdad this week. The M1114s include extra armor, a heavy-duty chassis and other safety features designed to better withstand explosive blasts and increase protection from other threats.

First Team Soldiers patrolling the streets of Baghdad encounter frequent attacks from small-arms fire, improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and rocket-propelled grenades. The new M1114s will augment other armored Humvees that are already used in theater.

"The M1114 is extremely well suited for countering the IED threat on the road," said Lt. Col. Larry Phelps, the division's chief logistics officer. "It

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By Spc. Bryan Kinkade, 1CD PAO

A Soldier ground guides one of the 150 new Humvees while it dismounts a flatbed trailer to be delivered to troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division. The vehicles came with full armor, air conditioning, more comfortable seats and almost no mileage on the odometer.

39th Soldiers Keep Up the Fight

By Staff Sgt. Rebekah-mae
Bruns

39th Brigade Combat Team

CAMP COOKE- "Let them know he wanted to keep on fighting," said the intense 22-year-old Pvt. Andrew Molero of Roseburg, Ore., as he sat restlessly smoking a cigarette.

It was the same situation Molero had trained for in Fort

Polk, La., at the Joint Readiness Training Center a month earlier. During a mock battle at Fort Polk, a fellow Soldier had lost a leg and Molero was the combat lifesaver.

This time it was real.

The two Soldiers and their platoon from Company A, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry

found themselves ambushed on an overpass in downtown Baghdad while providing convoy security for the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of Arkansas' 39th Brigade Combat Team.

The convoy came to an alarming halt as the two Bradleys leading the convoy took hits; the first with an

improvised explosive device (IED) and the second with a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG).

"There was some machine gun and small-arms fire that initiated it," said 1st Lt. Dewayne Jones, of Medford, Ore.

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New Humvees Protect First Team Soldiers

Continued from Page 1 offers the Soldier 360 degrees of protection inside the cab."

In addition to its sophisticated armor package, each M1114 comes equipped with a turret mount, the latest in Army communications system technology and a turbo-charged motor system.

"It's the robust vehicle that

you need when you are working the streets of Baghdad," Phelps said. "[M1114s] allow us to move quickly around the urban terrain. And they give the best force protection posture that we can have while out on the road."

Sgt. 1st Class Juan Rodriguez, an operations non-commissioned officer with the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry

Regiment, works with a troop that is familiar with the streets of Baghdad. Between raids, patrols, traffic control missions and cordon and searches they leave their forward operating base in Humvees nearly every day.

Though the 1-7 Cav. uses armored Humvees now, they aren't brand new. Rodriguez said adding some of the new

M1114s to their assets will give their other vehicles some respite from the stress of constant operation. There is also the benefit of making Soldier's feel better protected, he added.

"Some of the Humvees that we have now have been shot at," Rodriguez said. "[The M1114s] give the Soldier a better mindset. When they go out, they'll feel more protected. When they feel better about their mission, they'll [focus more] on their mission."

This shipment of new M1114s is part of the division's efforts to take care of Soldiers. Phelps said force protection on the battlefield is the top priority, and the division is committed to being on the forefront of new technology, especially if it saves life, limb or eyesight.

"As new ideas come up, they are attacked and we find sources for them," Phelps said. "[There are] commercial sources or Army sources. The up-armored Humvees happens to be an Army source, and I think it's a success story that we were able to field them as quickly as we were."



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Sgt. Maj. James Dukes, supply sergeant major, directs newly arrived M1114 Humvees into a formation at Camp Victory North. Division brigades stationed throughout the Baghdad area of operations plan to integrate these vehicles into their operations, allowing for better protection to First Team Soldiers.

Tuesday

High: 94
Low: 66



Wednesday

High: 92
Low: 65



Thursday

High: 93
Low: 68



Reminder: Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9

There's still time to mail a card or
send flowers (order online).

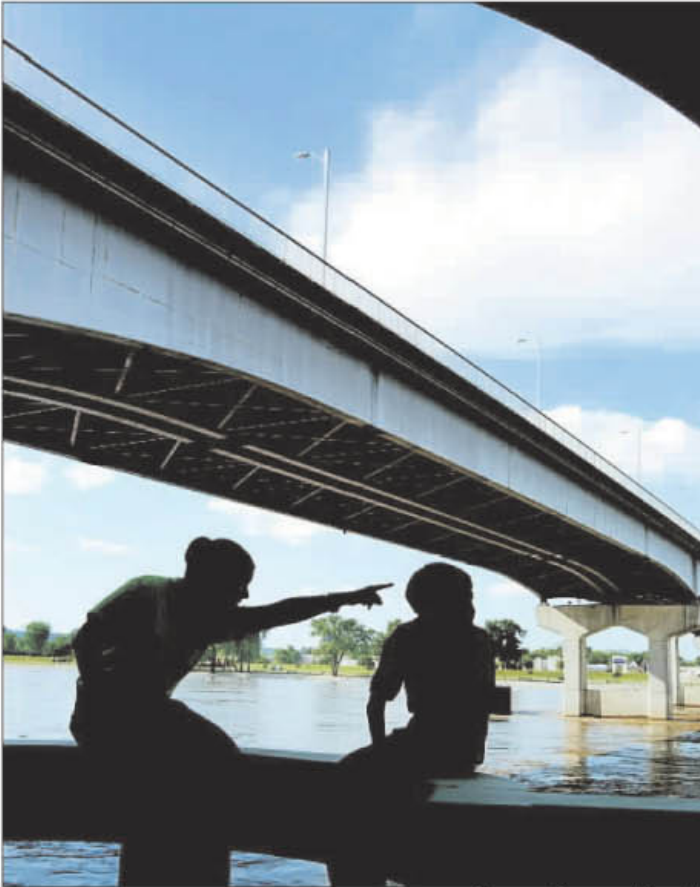


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► River Up, But Not Over



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Karyl Beavden points out a large tree floating down the Arkansas River on Sunday as she and her son, James, 9, sit in the belvedere in Riverfront Park in Little Rock. The Arkansas River was roiling with storm water Sunday but was not expected to reach flood stage in Little Rock.

Little Rock News Briefs

► From *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—The Arkansas Arts Center put on quite a dog and pony show Thursday at a press preview of the famous 208-year-old, \$30 million Lansdowne portrait of George Washington on display there through Aug. 22.

Little Rock is the last stop on an eight-city tour.

Afterward, the portrait returns to the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery. Such a big deal was this that the director of the National Portrait Gallery, Marc Pachter, attended.

Our Eric Harrison reports the press event began with the grand entrance of a four-person fife-and-drum corps from Williamsburg, Va., nattily attired in Revolutionary War uniforms. This preceding William Sommerfield, considered the foremost George Washington interpreter, clad head to toe in an exact replica of the suit Washington wore for the life-size Gilbert Stuart portrait commissioned in 1796,

complete with sword and shoe buckles. It seemed like a made-for-TV affair.

Problem was, not a single camera from any of the four Little Rock television stations with local newscasts showed up to capture the moment. Seems they were too busy covering weather-related events.

Dateline NBC reporter Keith Morrison and a film crew were back in Little Rock on Friday shooting results of the mother-and-son makeover of Laurie and Adam Grubb of Heber Springs.

On the eve of the Heber Springs High prom the entire family planned to attend, the pair were treated to hair styling by Joel Galloway of Joels. Then, Adam was fitted at Baumans Mens Shop and Laurie was dressed at B Barnett.

"All the cosmetic surgery and dental work has been done," said Susan Clark of the Cosmetic Surgery Center. "We're just working on finishing touches." The segment should air in May.

"He Wanted to Keep on Fighting"

Continued from Page 1

Jones, a platoon leader and commander of a military vehicle that was hit in the ambush, said, "I saw a flash to my rear and thought it was an IED. I radioed it in and then heard screaming from the back."

An RPG had hit their vehicle above the back wheel and smashed through a wooden bench, two rucksacks and Meal-Ready-to-Eat boxes launching Molero to the other side of the vehicle. The hit also

took the leg of one of Molero's fellow Soldiers, the same friend that Molero performed first aid on in the Fort Polk battle.

As fighting continued, the Soldier tried to get up but fell across the side of the vehicle.

"He wanted to keep on fighting," said Molero. "He wanted us to keep on fighting."

As he told Molero and Spc. Stephen Baldwin to keep fighting, they ignored his order and opened the combat lifesaver bag looking for medical equipment.

"I was throwing stuff everywhere because I couldn't find what I wanted," said Molero. "Then it hit me that I could use my bayonet."

Molero and Baldwin tied a tourniquet on the Soldier's leg using a belt and a bayonet cover to stop the bleeding.

Baldwin yelled forward to let Jones know the Soldier was hurt.

"It was hard to communicate," said Jones. "At first I thought they said he had a broken leg but Baldwin said, 'You don't understand, his leg is

gone.'"

Getting on the radio, Jones reported there was a casualty and they needed to get to a medical facility. Seven-and-a-half minutes later they arrived at the facility. The injured Soldier was in good spirits — he even joked with the medics.

"I guess I won't be doing any more three legged races," he said.

Baldwin and Molero were dazed. It was the same scenario in Fort Polk, La., and the Soldier wanted to keep on fighting.

ASU's Williams, Bradley Get The Call

► From *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—One of Corey Williams' favorite distractions is retreating to a fishing hole.

Williams, a former Arkansas State defensive tackle, might need to learn to ice fish now.

The Green Bay Packers drafted Williams in the sixth round, 179 th overall, on Sunday. His friend and former teammate Jon Bradley agreed to a free-agent deal with the Philadelphia Eagles in what qualifies as a banner year for the Indians.

It had been eight years since Arkansas State last had a player drafted when linebacker Carlos Emmons went to the Pittsburgh Steelers in the seventh round. Emmons remains in the league today.

While he waited out the draft's first three rounds Saturday, Williams went fishing. A morning outing by himself and an afternoon trip with a

friend produced a catch of about 70 crappie and catfish, many of which they threw back. Some of the big ones they kept and fried Saturday night.

"It was something to just get away from everybody," said Williams, who's from Harmony Grove. "I was sitting back and waiting."

Next stop Green Bay. Being picked by the



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Arkansas State lineman Corey Williams (left) was drafted by Green Bay while former teammate Jon Bradley (right) signed a free-agent deal with Philadelphia.

Packers didn't come as a shock, Williams said. He had a lot of contact with team officials at the scouting combine in February.

Still, he stopped short of allowing himself to feel as if he was on top of the world after his long-time dream of being drafted had been realized.

"Not yet," Williams said. "I won't be on top of the world until I get a starting job."

What made Williams attractive was the fact that he can play three positions on the defensive line, Packers director of scouting John Dorsey said.

"We felt that we had to go up and get this guy because there is a guy that is going to add depth to our defensive line," Dorsey said.

Williams leaves Thursday for minicamp in Green Bay.

Bradley also leaves Thursday for minicamp with the Eagles. Some mock drafts projected him to go in the late rounds, but he didn't mind going as a free agent.

Today in History

April 27

► From historychannel.com

1521 Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan killed during a tribal skirmish in the Philippines

1667 John Milton sells the copyright to *Paradise Lost*
1773 Parliament passes the Tea Act

1813 Explorer Zebulon Pike dies

1865 The steamboat *Sultana* explodes on the Mississippi River

1941 German forces enter Athens

1954 *White Christmas* debuts at Radio City Music Hall

1966 Birth of Penn Central Railroad

1972 North Vietnamese attack outskirts of Quang Tri

Sports

TV GUIDE

	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
18:00	Lizzie McGuire/ The Amanda Show	Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	Sports Special: NFL Draft Special Wrap-up	Cinema Secrets/ Ebert & Roeper At The Movies
19:00	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 19:30	Sportscenter	The Wild Thornberrys/ The Fairly Oddparents
20:00	ESPNNews/ HeadlineNews	Lassie	USA Soccer - Women's - Brazil @ U.S.	The Simpsons/ The Cosby Show
21:00	7th Heaven	My Girl 2 21:45		Monk
22:00	Spy Kids		MLB - Chicago Cubs @ Arizona Diamondbacks	The Practice



NBA

PLAYOFFS

Detroit 109
Milwaukee 92
(Detroit leads series 3-1)

2004 NBA All-Defensive Team

1st Team

Ron Artest, Indiana
Kobe Bryant, Los Angeles
Bruce Bowen, San Antonio
Ben Wallace, Detroit
Kevin Garnett, Minnesota

2nd Team

Tim Duncan, San Antonio
Jason Kidd, New Jersey
Andrei Kirilenko, Utah
Theo Ratliff, Portland
Doug Christie, Sacramento